URI Higher Education Initiative for College & Career Readiness

Funded by RI Board of Governors of Higher Education

**NEWSLETTER**

November 2, 2012

Volume 1, Issue 3

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## College and Career Readiness & Common Core State Standards

***Twenty States Plan to use Adaptive Testing to Assess Common Core Skills***

Both the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium and the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) are developing ELA and mathematics assessments that will feature high-tech, interactive questions that incorporate video and graphics. However, Smarter Balanced will use adaptive testing while PARC will use fixed-form tests. [Read More](http://www.edweek.org/dd/articles/2012/10/17/01adaptive.h06.html)

***Differences Between Assessment Tests for Common Core Standards***

Carol Meyer, Director of Bard College Master of Arts in Teaching Program, shares her views on three basic differences between the assessments developed by Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) and the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC). Rhode Island has chosen to work with PARCC. [Read More](http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/article/20121014/OPINION04/310140024/Valley-Views-Students-should-focus-test-criteria?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|PoughkeepsieJournal.com|s&nclick_check=1)

## *College Readiness: A Guide to the Field*

Researchers at the Annenberg Institute for School Reform at Brown University have developed a guide about college readiness that describes initiatives and organizations on the national, state, and local level. The guide includes chapters on academic preparedness, academic tenacity, and college knowledge as well as an appendix of college readiness programs**.** [Download Report](http://annenberginstitute.org/sites/default/files/CRIS_Guide.pdf)

***Common Core Drives Interest in Open Education Resources***

## Spurred by the adoption of common-core standards by nearly every state, the movement for open digital resources is growing as educators realign curricula.

In Utah, the state department of education is pulling together textbooks aligned to Common Core State Standards made up entirely of open educational resources, or OERs. South Dakota officials have created a repository of open education materials aligned to the common core for teachers. And at the national level, the education organization Achieve has launched a set of rubrics designed to help educators evaluate both the quality of OERs and their alignment to the common standards. [Read More](http://www.edweek.org/dd/articles/2012/10/17/01open.h06.html?cmp=ENL-DD-MOSTPOP)

***Are You Tech-Ready for the Common Core?***

School districts are raising concerns about their ability to be technologically ready to give Common Core State Standards assessments to students online in two years. Administrators say they remain uncertain about the types of devices to buy, the bandwidth they need, and the funding available for technology improvements. An initial round of data collection launched to determine technology gaps for schools preparing for the common-core online assessments has so far had limited participation from districts and many states. [Read More](http://www.edweek.org/dd/articles/2012/10/17/01readiness.h06.html?intc=mvs)

***University of California Statement on Competencies in Mathematics Expected of Entering College Students***

The goal of this Statement on Competencies in Mathematics Expected of Entering College Students is to provide a clear and coherent message about the mathematics that students need to know and to be able to do to be successful in college. While this is written especially for the secondary mathematics teachers, it should be useful for anyone who is concerned about the preparation of California's students for college. This represents an effort to be realistic about the skills, approaches, experiences, and subject matter that make up an appropriate mathematical background for entering college students. [View Report](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/reports/mathcomp.html)

## Resources

***NCTM Releases New Book on Common Core State Standards***

The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) has released a new book, *implementing the Common Core Standards though Mathematical Problem Solving in High School.* This book connects the process of problem solving with the content of the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics through 44 problems and tasks for students. High school math teachers may use the problems directly or adapt them for their classroom**.** [Click here](http://www.nctm.org/catalog/product.aspx?id=14329) for product description and ordering information.

## English Language Arts

## *Gr.12 Implications of the ELA Common Core Standards*

The purpose of this document is to interpret the Common Core State Standards as they apply to the teaching of ELA in Grade 12. This document breaks down the Introduction, and then each Standard (Reading-Literature and Informational Texts, Writing, Speaking and Listening, and Language), beginning with the CCR Anchor Standards and continuing with the analysis of each subheading. This document represents the Nassau BOCES Curriculum Area Projects (CAP) first step in understanding how the Common Core State Standards will be implemented in curricula. [Download Document](https://uricollegecareerreadiness.wikispaces.com/file/detail/Gr.12ImplicationsoftheELACommonCoreStandards.docx)

## Mathematics

***Implications of the Implementation of the Eight Standards of Mathematical Practice***

Susan Jo Russell discusses the importance of keeping the deep learning of every student at the center of teaching. She stresses the importance of interpreting and “weaving a coherent course of

instruction” onto the framework of the CCSSM. She describes how the CCSSM are viewed as both promising and problematic but reminds teachers that they should remember that the standards do not tell them how to teach.

***CCSSM: Keeping Teaching and Learning Strong*** [Read More](http://0-web.ebscohost.com.helin.uri.edu/ehost/detail?vid=3&hid=28&sid=c00fbffe-7251-43c0-a7b3-3a8d6f545cb0%40sessionmgr11&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWhvc3QtbGl2ZQ%3d%3d#db=a9h&AN=79199969)

***CCSSM Ten Years from Now***

Matthew R. Larson places the CCSSM in historical context as he discusses whether this latest reform will still be the focus of educational debate ten years from now. He describes what needs to take place in order for the CCSSM to improve students’ mathematics learning and simultaneously close achievement gaps.

***Will CCSSM Matter in Ten Years?*** [Read More](http://0-web.ebscohost.com.helin.uri.edu/ehost/detail?vid=3&hid=28&sid=c00fbffe-7251-43c0-a7b3-3a8d6f545cb0%40sessionmgr11&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWhvc3QtbGl2ZQ%3d%3d#db=a9h&AN=80001501)

## Related News and Issues

## *PARCC Releases RFP*

## The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), a 24-state consortium working together to create next generation assessments in English language arts/literacy and mathematics, released through Indiana's Department of Administration (IDOA), a request for proposal (RFP) for item tryouts, field testing, embedded research, practice tests, and forms construction for the first operational year of the assessment. The RFP also calls for vendors to develop technical and cost options for administering and scoring PARCC operational assessments in 2014-2015. [Read More](http://www.parcconline.org/parcc-releases-rfp" \t "_blank)

## Project News

***URI Higher Education Initiative for College & Career Readiness* *Symposium 2***

The second of three symposia for the *URI Higher Education Initiative for College & Career Readiness* will be held on Monday, November 5 on the campus at URI. This symposium will be the second of two meant specifically for the core steering committee members. The focus will be a plenary discussion of the American Council on Education document and then breakout sessions in which we will take a deeper look at the common core standards and the implications for syllabi in higher education. Please see the Wiki for more details.

***The Wiki is public!***

The URI Higher Education Initiative for College & Career Readiness wiki page is public and available for all your college and career readiness and common core enjoyment. Please bookmark and visit often. [Wiki Here](https://uricollegecareerreadiness.wikispaces.com/)